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CHINA.

*Report on the epidemic of plague in Amoy.*AMOY, CHINA, *June 14, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that on June 11 I cabled you as follows: "AMOY, *June 11, 1898.*—*State Department, Washington:* Plague. JOHNSON." Which I now confirm.

The bubonic plague appeared in this port about May 20. Only a few cases were reported up to June 5, when it suddenly developed rapidly, and on June 8 the consular surgeon, in his report for a ship bound to San Francisco, reported about 20 deaths daily, and that in his opinion the disease was then existing in an epidemic form. Since that time it has been on the increase. During the present week very warm, dry weather has prevailed, and if it continues, the spread of the epidemic will be checked, as the hot sun is fatal to the plague germs.

In three cities within a distance of 30 miles from Amoy, plague has been epidemic for thirty days. There being no official records kept of such matters in China, the actual number of deaths can only be approximated, but from estimates based upon the increased number of coffins sold and reports from Mission Hospital authorities, the average death rate in the three cities aggregates not less than 100 daily.

I have the honor, etc.,

A. BURLINGAME JOHNSON,
United States Consul.

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.

CUBA.

Sanitary reports from Santiago.

The following daily sanitary reports (July 20–August 2, 1898) have been received from H. S. Caminero, sanitary inspector, United States Marine-Hospital Service, stationed at Santiago:

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, *July 20, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to inform you that I arrived yesterday afternoon from Port Antonio in one of the New York Herald's dispatch boats, and found the city almost deserted, as the inhabitants, who had gone out by order of the Spanish authorities, were just getting back from their forced exodus. I presented to General Wood, the military governor of Santiago since the surrender, your cablegram ordering me back to Santiago for active service. He immediately gave orders that my position as sanitary inspector should be recognized, and that I should also be appointed health officer of the port of Santiago.

July 21, 1898.—I have the honor to inform you that I have this day inspected, by order of General Wood, military governor, all the transports lying in the harbor of Santiago. I accompanied Drs. Guitéras and Pope, who had also been ordered for the same duty. The general health of the crews was good, and I found no yellow fever cases on the vessels I inspected, but many cases of malarial fever were found. Dr. Guitéras informed me that he found 3 cases of yellow fever on board the steamship *Orizabal*, of the Ward Line. The cases were promptly sent to Siboney, on the coast, where a hospital has been established.